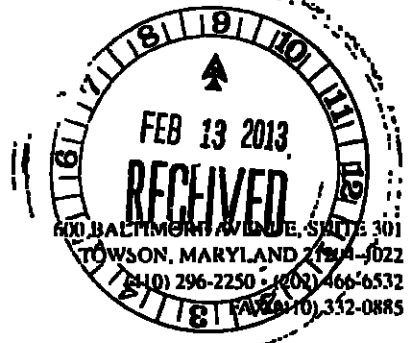


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February 12, 2013



VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Ms Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W., Room 1034
Washington, DC 20006

FILED

FEB 13 2013

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

Re. Docket No. AB-979 (Sub-No. 2X), Connecticut Southern Railroad,
Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—in Harford County, CT

Dear Ms. Brown:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned proceeding are an original and ten copies of the Petition of Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. to Reopen and extend the consummation date for abandonment to December 31, 2013. A check in the amount of \$250, representing the appropriate fee for this filing, and a computer disk containing the text of the Petition Word and pdf format are attached.

One extra copy of the Petition and this letter also are enclosed. I would request that you date-stamp those items to show receipt of this filing and return them to me in the provided envelope. If you have any questions regarding this filing, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your assistance on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie B. Yasbin
Attorney for:
CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
FEB 13 2013
Part of
Public Record

FEE RECEIVED

FEB 13 2013

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO AB-979 (Sub-No. 2X)

CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC. —
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—
IN HARTFORD COUNTY, CT

**PETITION OF CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.
TO REOPEN AND EXTEND CONSUMMATION FILING DATE**

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Attorneys for: Connecticut Southern
Railroad, Inc.

Dated: February 12, 2013

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB-979 (Sub-No. 2X)

CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.—
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—
IN HARTFORD COUNTY, CT

**PETITION OF CONNECTICUT SOUTHERN RAILROAD, INC.
TO REOPEN AND EXTEND THE CONSUMMATION FILING DATE**

Connecticut Southern Railroad, Inc. ("CSO") hereby petitions to reopen this proceeding and request the Board to extend the consummation filing date until December 31, 2013.

CSO filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. Part 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon 2.4 miles of rail line extending between milepost 2.0 and milepost 4.4 on its Suffield Subdivision in Hartford County, CT (the "Line"). Notice of the exemption was served and published in the *Federal Register* on January 9, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg. 1,126-27). There was no opposition to the abandonment. The exemption became effective on February 8, 2012.

In a decision served on February 7, 2012, the Board reopened the proceeding to impose the conditions that CSO shall: (a) prior to commencement of any salvage activities, consult with the Corps regarding potential impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, and comply with the reasonable requirements of the Corps; and (b) consult with and notify the NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers.

In a letter dated August 2, 2012, the Connecticut Department of Transportation ("CDOT") stated that it would exercise its rights of first refusal to acquire the Line in accordance with Section 13b-36 of the Connecticut General Statutes. While CDOT has not filed a public use request with the Board, CDOT and CSO have been in ongoing negotiations to allow CDOT to acquire the Line. It has not been determined whether CDOT will acquire the Line as an active railroad line or will acquire it as excepted track under 49 U.S.C. §10906, which will require CSO to consummate the abandonment and reclassify the track. Because these negotiations are ongoing and in order to provide CSO with the flexibility to sell CDOT the Line as a line of railroad or excepted track, whichever CDOT desires, CSO asks that the Board extend the consummation filing deadline so that CSO may consummate the abandonment and sell the Line to CDOT under state regulations.

CSO respectfully requests the Board to reopen this proceeding and extend the consummation filing deadline to December 31, 2013 to allow CSO to complete negotiations with CDOT, and if necessary, file its notice of consummation.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Attorneys for: Connecticut Southern
Railroad, Inc.

Dated: February 12, 2013